

Three tickets talk student issues in the UA debate

Presidential candidates address presidential search, student support, and orientation

By Anne Cai
NEWS EDITOR

In a debate co-hosted by *The Tech* and the UA this past Sunday, the three tickets of potential future Undergraduate Association (UA) leaders discussed issues such as the search for a new MIT president, student-administration relationships, MIT culture, orientation, and the role of the UA on campus. Running for UA president and vice president are Jonté D. Craighead '13 and Michael P. Walsh '13, Naren P. Tallapragada '13 and Andrew C. Yang '13, and Brendan T. Deveney '13 and Mary A. Breton '14. The debate, which took place on the first floor of the student center, had an audience of about 30, with more people attending for some portions.

As a ticket, Deveney/Breton said that their top three priorities were communication, advising reform, and dining, while Tallapragada/Yang asked, "What's the value of electing

someone new in giving [the UA] a vision?" The latter emphasized a changing student perception of the UA and building a foundation for MIT's and the UA's future. Craighead/Walsh echoed these sentiments, listing communication, transparency in the UA, and "changing the UA's organizational inertia" as their priorities.

On the UA and the administration

Given the UA's restructuring process over the past year and a string of presidential/vice presidential resignations, the structure and vision of the UA in the next year is an especially prominent issue, and the three tickets cited a widespread lack of faith and student belief in the UA's abilities.

Craighead/Walsh emphasized their experience in positions within the UA which granted them the opportunity to engage with a number of



IAN M. GORODISHER—THE TECH

Jonté D. Craighead '13, and Michael P. Walsh '13, Naren P. Tallapragada '13 and Andrew C. Yang '13, and Brendan T. Deveney '13 and Mary A. Breton '14 face off in the UA presidential debate sponsored by *The Tech* Sunday. Voting begins this Wednesday morning and ends Friday at midnight.

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Meeting tonight to shape future of Kendall Square

The city is running a public meeting to present the work of the Kendall-to-Central study's Kendall Square phase, and to solicit feedback.

It is 6 p.m. today at the Kendall Marriott, with some food. See <http://cambridgema.gov/cdd/cp/zng/k2c2/>.

Agenda:

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Presentation on vision, and then topics: Public realm, built form and use, sustainability, transportation.
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Group exercise in round-robin format on each of the above four topics.
8:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Reports from the groups.
8:30 – 9:00 p.m.	General comments (facilitated).

According to the agenda, the group exercise will include discussion questions about priorities and assessment of the study's work to-date.

Central Square meeting tomorrow

Additionally, the city is holding an additional public meeting tomorrow, focused on Central Square. It is at 6 p.m., Wednesday April 11, at the Cambridge Senior Center at 806 Mass. Ave, opposite City Hall.

The Central Square phase of the Kendall-to-Central study will continue through the summer, with additional meetings on May 9 and June 13. This is unlike the Kendall phase which began in July 2011, and finishes around May.

—John A. Hawkinson

Two-tier self-help system eliminated

Tuition & FinAid budget rise

By Leo Zhou

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In the 2012-2013 academic year, MIT's tuition and fees will increase by 3.25 percent to \$42,050, while its financial aid budget is set to increase by 4.7 percent to \$95.6 million, according to a release from MIT News Office. Though unmentioned in the release, self-help level has risen for students with family income of \$75,000 or less from \$4,400 to \$6,000, but remains unchanged for other financial aid recipients who had to contribute \$6,000 since last year, according to the MIT Student Financial Service website.

Even though this is the 13th consecutive year that MIT's financial aid budget has increased at a higher percentage than tuition, it's also the first time in recent years that rate of increase in financial aid budget

per recipients drops significantly below tuition increase rate.

"Self-help" refers to the loans and work-study that MIT expects its financial aid recipients to contribute as part of their financial aid package. In 2009, the self-help level was \$2,850 for students from families making under \$75,000, and \$4,750 for others. Self-help isn't part of MIT's financial aid budget, which only includes the gift-aid "MIT Scholarship" that 62 percent of undergraduates currently receive.

Elizabeth Hicks, Executive Director of Student Financial Services, pointed out that MIT is "the only private university that lets a student who's a U.S. citizens use their Pell Grant to replace self-help." Hicks said that the Federal Pell Grant, the maximum of which is \$5,550,

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EDITORIAL

Vote Craighead/Walsh for UA P/VP

A strong combo of experience and vision

MIT has entered a time of great and rapid change. The Institute is preparing for a major campus overhaul, selecting a new president, and trying to push the frontiers of online education. Students should have a say in all of these issues. But who will lead them?

The Tech endorses Jonté D. Craighead '13 and Michael P. Walsh '13 for Undergraduate Association president and vice president. The pair have a commendable background of leadership within the UA, and have also presented a relatively ambitious yet doable agenda during their campaign. Craighead/Walsh are most qualified candidates to lead MIT's undergraduate student government.

Craighead, who comes with a background as a UA senator and speaker of the senate, is ideally positioned to hit the ground running as president next fall. He'll have to build a relationship with a

brand-new Institute president, and as he told *The Tech* last week, "If we start off this relationship poorly, our ability to influence decisions on campus will be greatly diminished." It is to his advantage that he will not need to simultaneously learn how the UA works.

Craighead/Walsh have also suggested policy that will genuinely make students' lives better, and we believe they have the know-how to pull it off — better food options in W20 and student group procurement cards (so that students are no longer burdened with seeking reimbursements), for instance. *The Tech* also applauds their collaborative — as opposed to antagonistic — approach to the administration.

It is worth noting, however, that Naren P. Tallapragada '13 and Andrew C. Yang '13 have run an impressive "UA outsider" campaign.

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CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH

Alfred N. Mireault '15 of Kappa Sigma does a handstand on a less-than-stable platform Friday night during Alpha Phi's King of Hearts in Kresge. All proceeds from the event, a male beauty pageant featuring members from numerous MIT fraternities, went to the Alpha Phi Foundation to support research for women's heart health.

CY LEUNG IS NOT A LEGITIMATE LEADER

He lacks the support of the people. **OPINION,** p. 4

COURSE 2-A IS CHANGING

New curriculum will offer more options. **NEWS,** p. 18

THE JOYS OF HAYMARKET

Cooking on a budget can be easy. **CAMPUS LIFE,** p. 9



ANIME BOSTON

The convention returns to Boston for its tenth year. **CAMPUS LIFE,** p. 10

FEELING DOWN?

Nothing can help as much as a professional. **CAMPUS LIFE,** p. 9

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Tunisia cracks down again on protestors defying a ban

By David D. Kirkpatrick
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAIRO — The 6-month-old government of Tunisia cracked down with tear gas and batons Monday on thousands of protesters who filled a central artery of the capital in defiance of a new ban on demonstrations there. The confrontation, at the site of the protests that ousted former President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and kicked off the Arab Spring last year, was another manifestation of a role reversal now playing out across North Africa in the aftermath of the revolts in neighboring Egypt and Libya as well.

In each, former exiles and political prisoners who spent careers under police state rule find themselves struggling to impose a new order on the bedlam left after the old government’s collapse. “There is a difference between a revolution and chaos,” said Said Ferjani, a torture victim and former exile who is now a spokesman for the moderate Islamist party that leads Tunisia’s constituent assembly. In both Egypt and Tunisia, the Islamist parties leading the new legislatures — outlawed as radicals under their former governments — take a conservative, business-friendly approach to matters

of law and order at odds with more left-leaning forces in the revolts. In Tunisia, that tension has become particularly focused on Avenue Bourguiba in Tunis — a central thoroughfare that is the symbolic core of the country’s revolution, like Tahrir Square in Cairo. Labor groups, liberals and more conservative Islamists have all used the avenue as a staging ground for demonstrations to voice their demands to the interim government. Local merchants and businesses, meanwhile, complain that the constant protests have scared off tourists, ruining any hope of economic revival.

Facebook buys popular photo app Instagram for \$1 billion

By Casey Newton
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook took steps Monday to bolster its mobile strategy, acquiring popular photo-sharing application Instagram for about \$1 billion in cash and stock. The purchase, the social network’s largest and the most expensive by far for a smart phone app, gives Facebook a company that’s adept at producing mobile apps as well as a passionate community of more than 30 million users. It also neutralizes a potential competitive threat from the San Francisco startup, whose 28-year-old co-founder has talked about building a large global

business. The move comes on the eve of an expected initial public offering from Facebook that could value the Menlo Park company at \$100 billion. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg noted that the deal was unusual for a company that traditionally has bought startups primarily for their engineering talent. The price tag makes it one of the priciest startup acquisitions ever, in the same league as Google’s purchase of YouTube for \$1.65 billion in 2006. The acquisition came before Instagram began generating any significant revenue. While it planned to eventually include some form of advertising inside the app, the company had yet to imple-

ment any. That didn’t stop Instagram from closing a new \$50 million round of funding just last week that valued the company at \$500 million, according to tech websites All Things D and TechCrunch. “This is an important milestone for Facebook because it’s the first time we’ve ever acquired a product and company with so many users,” Zuckerberg said in a Facebook post. “We don’t plan on doing many more of these, if any at all.” Instagram proved irresistible to the social networking giant because of its shared interest in top-notch photo-sharing experiences, Zuckerberg said.

Tsunami projections offer bleak fate for many Japanese towns

KUROSHIO, Japan — The simulations shocked this sleepy community nestled on the tip of Japan’s Shikoku island: A huge undersea quake could bring a tsunami as high as 112 feet here, a government-appointed expert panel said. “We’d never make it if such big waves came,” said Hachiro Okumoto, 70, a fisherman who has worked off the Kuroshio coast for half a century. “It would be a wall of water. It would block out the sun.” Just a year after a tsunami destroyed much of Japan’s northern Pacific coast, an updated hazard map detailing the damage that could be unleashed by another quake of a similar magnitude has been met with alarm across the country. The new simulations take into account the lessons learned from the 9.0-magnitude temblor that hit off the Japanese archipelago in March last year. The fault lines in this seismically volatile region could cause far-bigger earthquakes than previously thought possible, spawning tsunamis affecting a far wider — and far more populous — area than the one last year. —Hiroko Tabuchi, The New York Times

Titanic becomes a tourist attraction on the ocean floor

Explorers and United States government experts have put together the first comprehensive map of the Titanic’s resting place as a guide to better understanding the liner’s death throes and better preserving its remains. Already, knowing the exact positions of thousands of parts, structures and artifacts has allowed the government and the International Maritime Organization to draw up recommendations for the operation of the mini-submarines that ferry tourists more than two miles down to the bottom of the North Atlantic for a glimpse of the great ship. “People have the right to see, explore and learn,” said James P. Delgado, director of maritime heritage at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which monitors the wreck. “But you want to put down guidelines like those at Gettysburg and the Acropolis, so visitors can experience it in the same way.” Meanwhile, the tourist submarines have a history of damaging delicate artifacts, threatening to accelerate the wreck’s demise. Starting in 2004, the U.S. sought to forge an agreement with France, Canada and Britain to find ways to protect the ship’s remains. Then, in 2010, federal experts joined with RMS Titanic on an expedition to do extensive mapping. The technical muscle behind the effort came from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, which originally helped find the doomed liner. —William J. Broad, The New York Times

A grand jury won’t convene in Trayvon Martin case in Florida

MIAMI — Angela B. Corey, a Republican state attorney with a reputation for toughness, has decided not to seek a grand jury review of the Trayvon Martin shooting, keeping the resolution of a case that has transfixed the nation solely in her hands. Corey, who was appointed special prosecutor in the case by Florida’s governor and attorney general, must decide how to proceed with the case, in which many facts are in dispute and no witnesses have come forward publicly. She alone must determine whether to file charges against George Zimmerman, the neighborhood watch coordinator who shot and killed the unarmed Martin, or to drop the case. The decision puts Corey not only at the center of a national discussion of race and violence — Zimmerman, 28, is Hispanic; Martin, 17, was black — but also of the finer points of law. The fact that no arrest has been made nor legal action taken in the Feb. 26 shooting has enraged many people across the country and has led to angry marches and protests. The pressure to bring charges is “unbelievable,” said Tor J. Friedman, a criminal defense lawyer in Tallahassee, Fla. “We always talk about a rush to judgment in other cases,” he said, but in this case the question is more like, “Why wasn’t this person taken to the town square and flogged in front of everybody?” —Lizette Alvarez and John Schwartz, The New York Times

NEA is said to plan big cuts in aid for PBS arts shows

The National Endowment for the Arts, a major supporter of PBS shows devoted to performing arts and independent documentaries, is proposing substantial cuts in their financing. Collectively, the cuts, which will not be official until April 25, would strip more than \$1 million in federal production aid from PBS shows, which have been hard-pressed for financing in recent years. The money falls under the NEA’s 2012 Arts in Media grant program. The NEA began notifying applicants by mail late last week of the grant amounts they could expect. According to public television executives apprised of the numbers, who would not speak for attribution because the figures were confidential, “Great Performances” and “American Masters” were told they would receive \$50,000 each in the 2012 financing cycle, down from \$400,000 each in 2011. The 2011 figures are in the public record. The independent documentary series, “Independent Lens,” was told it would get \$50,000, down from \$170,000, while the documentary series “POV” learned it would receive \$100,000, down from \$250,000. Art21, producer of “Art in the Twenty-First Century,” is expecting \$200,000, down from the \$290,000 it was awarded in 2011 (including money from a separate pool for education grants). San Francisco’s KQED, which received \$200,000 in 2011 for its PBS music series “Sound Tracks,” was turned down after requesting \$350,000 but encouraged to reapply for 2013, KQED officials said. Executives at the affected shows expressed disappointment. Neal Shapiro, president and chief executive of New York public media provider WNET, which produces the biography program “American Masters” and the performing arts show “Great Performances,” called the loss of NEA money “damaging.” —Elizabeth Jensen, The New York Times



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GUEST COLUMN

A lasting and just solution for resolving the conflicts with the Iranian Regime

By Ali Talebinejad

On March 14, 2012, I attended the CIS (Center for International Studies) sponsored book event by Trita Parsi at MIT [1]. I shall refrain from commenting on his book and instead refer those interested to the Jan. 23, 2012 *Wall Street Journal* article by Sohrab Ahmari titled “It Takes Two to Engage” [2]. However I would write about the question I wanted to ask from Abbas Maleki, the discussant at the event, but I couldn’t.

To comply with their Q/A format, I would have introduced myself, as a community member and alumni of MIT (MS, 85 and PhD, 92). I also received my BS from the Mechanical Engineering Department of Sharif University of Technology in Tehran which is incidentally the same department where Abbas Maleki proudly mentions in the first line of his resume [3] as the place where he has been doing his BS from 1975 to 1985.

Since 2009 fraudulent presidential election in Iran, there have been violent crackdowns by the regime against peaceful protesters and dissidents which has resulted in severe human rights violations including deaths of tens of people according to many reliable reports. Consequently last year, U.N. appointed Ahmad Shahid as its Special Reporter to investigate the human rights abuses at the hands of the Iranian regime after the 2009 election [4]. Unfortunately, Khamenei-Ahmadinejad regime neither allowed Ahmad Shahid to travel to Iran nor responded to any of his questions. Instead, Mohammad-Javad Larijani, regime’s so called “general secretary of high council for human rights” at the 19th UNHRC session in Geneva, denounced Ahmad Shahid and his report.

Any conscious human being can easily find the behavior of IRI (Islamic Republic of Iran) regime and its agents outrageous. However, in order to understand the depth of the tyranny in this regime and its relevance to Abbas Maleki, I would like to take you back to the summer of 1988 when following to a decree by Khomeini, thousands of political prisoners were massacred by summary executions [5, 6]. These facts are reported and confirmed by numerous reliable sources including Geoffrey Roberston QC [7, 8, 9].

Abbas Maleki’s resume states that he was a key figure at the Foreign Ministry of Iranian regime in 1988, the year when those massacres started. During the period of 1989 to 1997 that Abbas Maleki was the Deputy Foreign Minister; his ministry was either preventing or stonewalling international organizations which were trying to investigate those killings.

These facts are reflected in annual reports of Reynaldo Galindo Pohl, U.N. Special Envoy to Iran from 1986 to 1995 [10, 11].

Abbas Maleki has continued helping the IRI regime to stay in power by holding key positions including acting as the adviser to Ali Khamenei, the current Supreme Leader of IRI regime [12]. Maleki should be held responsible for the crimes that IRI regime has committed against Iranian people and humanity throughout decades that he has collaborated with the regime at very high levels.

Maleki should be held responsible for the crimes that IRI regime has committed against Iranian people.

Abbas Malaki, while enjoying his fellowship at MIT CIS, has recorded a video at MIT dated Feb. 14, 2012 with an MIT CIS background [13]. In this video, aside from abusing MIT facilities to lobby for the IRI regime without expressing his true identity to the MIT community, he indicates that he travels back and forth to Iran freely. He ends his video by giving accounts of “life in Iran” as if nothing has ever happened and people are going about their lives as usual and then asks for ending the sanctions against Iran which is the biggest wish of the IRI regime. Despite being in touch with daily life in Iran, Abbas Malaki does not say anything about the recent events and obvious violations of the people in Iran by the regime. When renowned lawyers such as Nasrin Sotoodeh and Abolfath Soltani are imprisoned for defending their clients’ rights according to the laws of the IRI regime, one might imagine what this regime has done and is doing to the rest of its population.

A democratic and stable government can come to power in Iran sooner if the U.S. and

its allies genuinely put Human Rights at the forefront of their short and long term dealings with the Iranian regime. A democratic Iran not only can bring peace and justice to its own people and stabilize the region but also can resolve international concerns about Iran including its nuclear issues.

Stephen Kinzer in his well-documented book titled *All the Shah’s Men* explains that the democratic government of Mosaddegh was overthrown by CIA because he had nationalized the Iranian oil. He concludes that restoring Shah to the throne and allowing him to impose a tyranny, ultimately sparked the Islamic Revolution of 1979 which has become the main headache of the U.S. and the world. The U.S. should not make another grand mistake by acting unjustly against the real interest of the Iranian people again, namely by limiting its negotiations with the Iranian regime to nuclear issues only.

After the 2009 fraudulent presidential elections, an unprecedented number of Iranian people came to the streets to claim their stolen votes while asking for human rights and democracy. Unfortunately, the Obama administration lost that exceptional opportunity for supporting the cause of the Iranian people who wanted to bring democracy to their country. President Obama instead chose to follow the advice of Iranian lobbyists like Trita Parsi and his NIAC organization and failed to support the peaceful Iranian protesters against the regime. Then Obama administration recognized the presidency of Ahmadinejad to appease the regime in his wishful thinking of not jeopardizing the nuclear negotiations with Iran. This was yet another classic mistake of the U.S. settling for little short term interests against the just, vital, and long lasting benefits of the U.S. and the world, let alone Iran.

To achieve a stable, reliable, and democratic government in Iran, the U.S. must make human rights and democracy the main pillars of its policy towards Iran. Even if the West can resolve its nuclear conflicts with Iran, they

should continue the current sanctions against the IRI regime and use those as an effective tool for forcing the regime to genuinely allow the Iranian people to benefit from the universal norms of human rights so they can establish a democratic government in their country and bring peace and prosperity to the region.

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Aside from the governments, every individual and/or organization can play an important positive or negative role in the process of achieving democracy in Iran. People such as Larry King and even Charlie Rose decided to invite Ahmadinejad to boost their program ratings without being able to effectively questioning him about his government’s vast violations of human rights while Ahmadinejad used their outlets to spread his lies. But worse is to see that academic institutions such as MIT CIS give position and venue to individuals like Abbas Maleki who should be prosecuted for his key roles in IRI regime and his current support of it. And the worst is to learn that Jim Walsh of CIS is so proud of his dealing with IRI regime that he plans to give a talk at MIT under the title of “My 5 Diners with Ahmadinejad”. Such appeasements make the Khamenei-Ahmadinejad regime to have more illusions thus sadly prolonging the suffering of the Iranian people. This tyrannical regime will fall sooner if it and its agents do not receive such political supports from outside.

Ali Talebinejad received his MS in ’85 and his PhD in ’92.

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1,200 people cannot represent seven million Hong Kong must have free elections

Leung, from Page 4

sions were not made for this 2012 election, it’s possible the promised revisions for 2017 will also fall through. Until then, 1,200 will speak for seven million people.

Thus, the situation is seemingly Putinesque. Elections that are considered fair, or will become hopefully fair, have no guarantee. In the election, Leung is the Beijing-backed candidate, so it was not surprising that he came out as the frontrunner, when selected by an Election Committee with many Beijing-backed tycoons. Pro-democracy protesters proclaim that Leung is a Communist Party Loyalist. Leung denies this, but there is backing to their claim.

In September 2002, the Hong Kong government proposed Article 23, which allows the Government to “enact laws on its own to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, and subversion.” The article was originally added by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in response to the 1989 Tiananmen Square student demonstrations. The bill goes on to say that groups banned by the PRC are to be banned in Hong Kong, and for houses to be searched, and for people to be arrested without court evidence or warrants. This is baseless curtailing of people’s liberties. Mass demonstrations by the Hong Kong people then followed in 2003, and the bill was withdrawn.

The Hong Kong people have a history of safeguarding their rights. This was most ob-

vious in the people’s response to the Tiananmen Square student demonstrations on May 15 1989. Eight days later, 1.5 million marched through Hong Kong Island in support of the Beijing protesters. But Leung does not share

Thus, the situation is seemingly Putinesque.

the people’s progressive spirit or collective thoughts, as he would consider resurrecting Article 23. Leung “would strive for the consensus of the public on the issue.” Only time will tell what he will do. But in the present, there are already amassed a presence of protesters urging for democratic values. Immediately after the announcement of Leung’s victory,

thousands of protestors dressed up as Red Riding Hood carrying “a replica of wolfskin” meant to represent the Chinese Communist Party. The protesters held up a black banner saying “mourning” to purport what they called “the death of democracy,” with posters saying “the wolf is here.” Such statements boldly mark the tension of Leung’s ties with his people in the years to come.

With the increasing wealth gap, rising living costs, and growing pressures to remain the “number one city to do business,” Hong Kong demands a lot from the new chief executive. Unfortunately, that chief executive is Leung Chun-Yin, whose dedication to the Hong Kong people seems weak, and whose popularity among the people seems weaker.

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OPINION

Voters, fortunately, have a tough choice this year

Two tickets have what it takes to lead the undergraduate student body

By Ryan Normandin
STAFF COLUMNIST

Editor's Note: Ryan Normandin is the UA Council representative from MacGregor House, formerly UA senator.

On the Saturday prior to the UA debate, I had the privilege of interviewing all three tickets running for UA president (UAP) and vice president (UAVP). Let me begin by saying that all three of these tickets were enthusiastic and it was a pleasure to discuss campus issues with them. However, only two of these tickets are qualified enough to be considered for the positions.

Serving in a leadership position does not make one qualified for higher positions; it's what one does in those roles.

Brendan T. Deveney '13 and Mary A. Breton '14 were certainly sincere in their desire to improve undergraduate life, but they lacked a sophisticated understanding of the most pressing issues facing students. They hadn't heard of MIT 2030, had only a superficial understanding of the roles of UAP/VP, and did not have a clear answer to what they thought was the most important issue facing undergraduates. If Deveney and Breton are seriously interested in holding the positions they are running for, I would strongly encourage them to engage with the UA more strongly and develop a more nuanced understanding of the issues facing students. If they do that, then I am confident that — although Deveney will be graduating — Breton will be a viable candidate next year, should she commit herself to the preparation that goal entails. For now, however, the pair does not have the vision or knowledge necessary to run the UA.

The remaining two tickets are both quite strong, albeit for different reasons. Jonté D. Craighead '13 and Michael P. Walsh '13 are

the candidates with the most experience working with the UA. Craighead served as speaker of the senate and Next House senator, and Walsh has experience as chair of the Athletics Committee and fraternities senator. Both were also involved in the restructuring that resulted in the dissolution of the Senate and creation of the UA Council.

However, serving in a position of leadership does not automatically make one qualified for higher positions; it is what one does in those positions that is relevant. As speaker, Craighead presided over some of the longest meetings ever — stretching at the longest to six hours — which was a major factor in the unprecedented number of resignations and motivated beginning the restructuring process (however, roughly two-hour meetings were more typical). This could be either a positive or a negative, depending on how it's viewed; perhaps the fact that meetings stretched so long under Craighead was indicative of just how badly the Senate needed restructuring. After all, Craighead was just following the rules.

At the same time, the position of speaker could have been used more effectively to limit the length of discussions, encouraging more strongly the use of the mailing list outside of Senate meetings, and even taking a lead in proposing legislation to simply cap the length of Senate meetings. Although Craighead did none of these things, his intimate involvement in restructuring led to the development of a body that I consider to be superior to Senate structurally. Whether he should again be put in charge of it is questionable, given the details above.

Naren P. Tallapragada '13 and Andrew C. Yang '13 have almost no UA experience, and this is unfortunate. Although the pair insisted in their interview that it was in fact a strength and that they will have new, fresh ideas that would be impossible to come up with for those inside the UA, understanding the extensive structure and intricacies of the committees, Council, and the rest of the UA are most definitely advantageous.

Another element that the duo is missing

— that Craighead and Walsh have — is connections with administrators. This, however, is not as critical, as I believe that the pair is more than capable of rapidly developing such relationships. And despite the lack of UA experience, they do have experience framing and discussing issues. Naren is one of the founding members of the student group "The Forum," which discusses current events issues, including those taking place at MIT. They stressed during their interview their ability to facilitate discussion, and this was evident when I spoke with them. They excelled at framing the issues, identifying what the key points were, and considering the important questions moving forward.

However, my fear is that they will be

Between Craighead/Walsh and Tallapragada/Yang, it's a coin toss.

stuck doing just that: facilitating and not taking an active enough role in the position of a leader. When asked questions, the pair often responded with more questions that would need to be considered, rather than giving me a solid position. It was clear that they intended these questions to be answered by information they would gather from students upon election. And while that is certainly a perfectly valid way of running a government, I'm not sure that someone who simply channels the will, or lack thereof, of students is what the UA needs right now. A strong leader who has solid positions and knows how to accomplish set goals, while also incorporating input from students, is what the UA needs rather than someone to serve purely as a conduit for students' voices.

What then, besides experience, are the key differences? Both tickets have similar views on the role that the UA Council should play, serving as a managing body and in an advisory capacity. They also have similar views regarding the roles of the president and vice president and the relative importance of issues on campus.

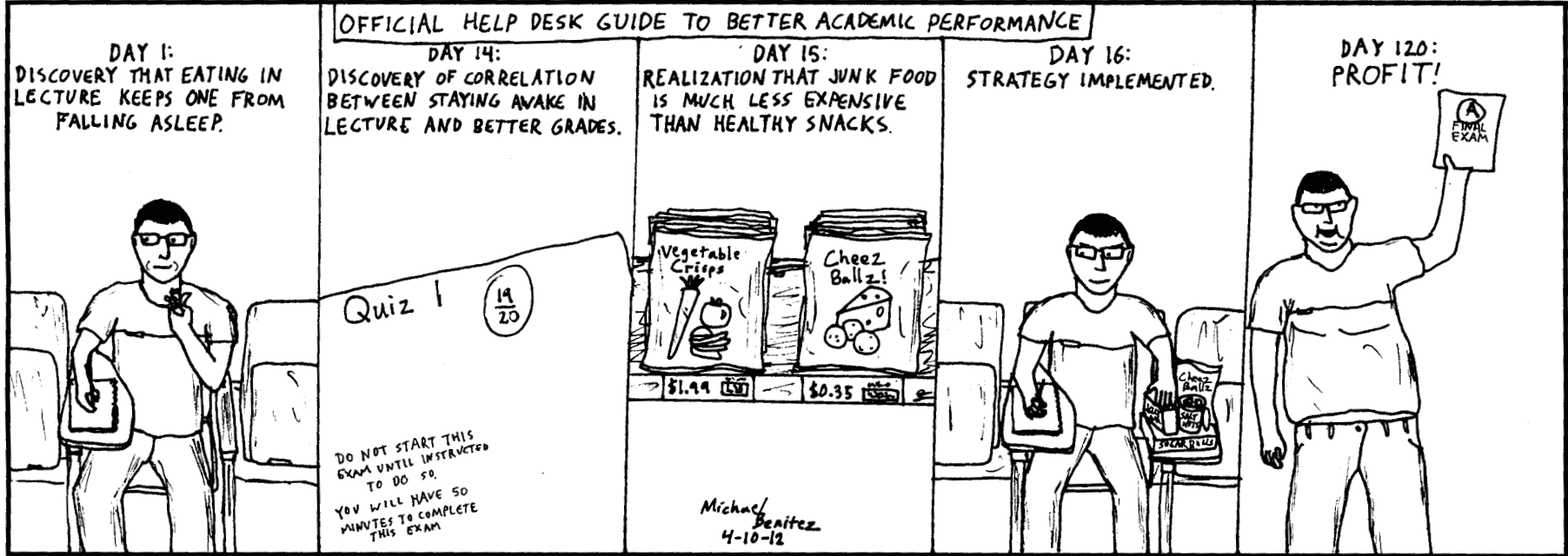
The difference between them is in the scope of their vision and what they hope to accomplish. If Craighead and Walsh are elected, I have no doubt that they will accomplish almost everything on their agenda because all the goals they set are definitely attainable and they are exceedingly capable individuals. If you vote for them, you know that you will be voting "safely," for a ticket that will do what they said and be successful. Tallapragada and Yang, on the other hand, have much more of a "big-picture" idea of what the UA should be. They have a passion for helping students and making the UA into what they believe it has the potential to be. Not all their goals are "safe"; while they will certainly accomplish the more standard goals they've set (those similar to Craighead and Walsh), they are unlikely to do so as well or as thoroughly as their opponents. However, they, more than Craighead and Walsh, have the potential and the vision to invigorate the UA and the undergraduate student body and to really, truly create a culture shift in how undergraduate life is experienced. Yet this possibility is far from assured, and voting for them on this basis is risky — if they fail in the big vision area, they will be inferior to Craighead and Walsh in the others. But if they succeed in that area, then they will be exactly what the UA needs to have a truly transformative year.

I approached this column with a mind to endorse one of the tickets. By endorsing a ticket, I would back 100 percent the ability of that ticket to be the best. But between Craighead/Walsh and Tallapragada/Yang, it is a coin toss, a decision between the safe bet and the one that could either be a flop or a huge success. This is not a problem; rather, it is wonderful that there are two very capable tickets running this year. I would be excited to work with either pair, and I ask that every student reading this votes this week. The UA is at a crucial junction in its history, and whoever wins will have a heavy burden to bear, and we need every one of you to decide who is best-suited to bear that burden and turn the UA into what you believe it should be.

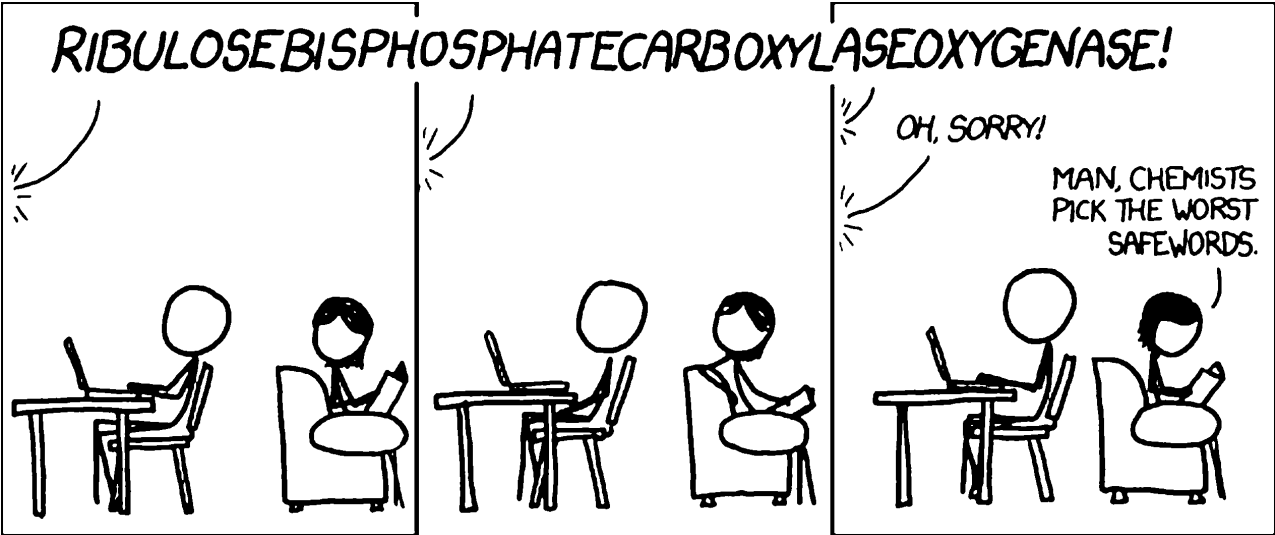




Help Desk by Michael Benitez



[1039] Rubisco



Bruce Schneier believes safe words are fundamentally insecure and recommends that you ask your partner to stop via public key signature.

Saturday Stumper by Lester Ruff

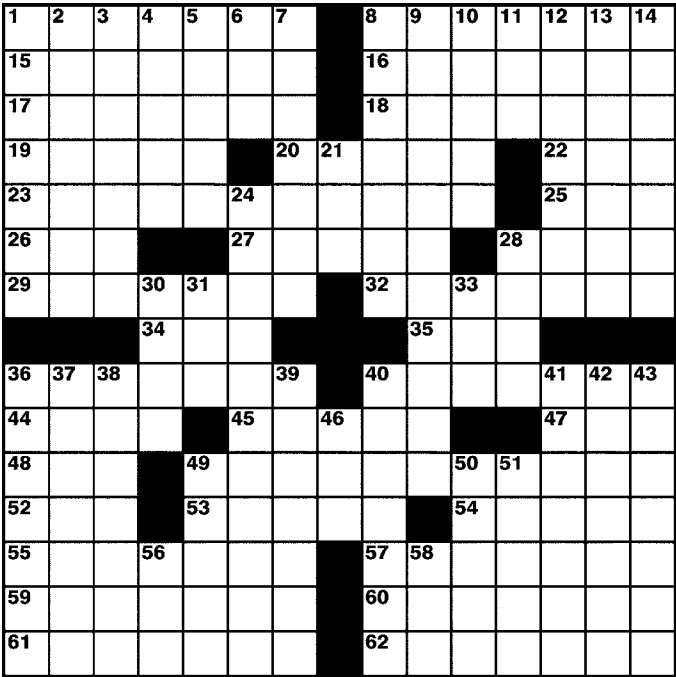
Solution, page 18

- ACROSS**

 - 1 Product promotion package
 - 8 Not a lost cause
 - 15 Demon
 - 16 Printing
 - 17 Not easily let go
 - 18 Let
 - 19 Most fundamental
 - 20 Commuter reading
 - 22 Cable operator's offering
 - 23 Aromatherapy supply
 - 25 Refinement candidate
 - 26 Major span
 - 27 Just as expected
 - 28 Jolly Roger hand
 - 29 Acutely uncertain
 - 32 Harangues
 - 34 Point of decline
 - 35 "Make friends of ___ enemies": Pythagoras
 - 36 In a sense?
 - 40 Celebrated Carnival, maybe
 - 44 Major spans
 - 45 Goes
- 47 Early sixth-century date
 - 48 Rev (up)
 - 49 Results of some substitutions
 - 52 Baltimore Ravens mascot
 - 53 Rest
 - 54 Concert venue
 - 55 They're hidden in some L.A. buildings
 - 57 Patriot on the move
 - 59 Overly sweet stuff
 - 60 Tendency toward the unusual
 - 61 Bowling-center fixtures
 - 62 Turns mild

DOWN

 - 1 Something fixed by the meticulous
 - 2 Common
 - 3 Greer Garson Oscar role
 - 4 Shape of chimney smoke
 - 5 Day-Lewis' mom in Nine
 - 6 Compass reading
 - 7 Flushes
- 8 Weighty
 - 9 Penguin habitat
 - 10 Records, informally
 - 11 Any QB throw
 - 12 Enclosed ecosystem
 - 13 Shuttered, in Sheffield
 - 14 Course selections
 - 21 Compass writing
 - 24 Course rarity
 - 28 UN delegate since 2000
 - 30 Looks over
 - 31 Paper strip around Japanese books
 - 33 Cake flavoring
 - 36 Bag holders
 - 37 Wardrobe
 - 38 Fashionable outerwear
 - 39 Lets off
 - 40 Harder to traverse
 - 41 Gave as a bonus
 - 42 Most free of fluctuations
 - 43 Apt rhyme for "charms"
 - 46 Its Web site has a "Where's my refund?" page




- 49 Zesty element
 - 50 "Down in Yon Forest," e.g.
 - 51 Sound off
- 56 One not to be trusted
 - 58 King of Diamonds depiction



JORGE CHAM © 2012

REALIZE
YOU'RE NOT
SLEEPING
TONIGHT



PUT OFF
STARTING AS
MUCH AS
POSSIBLE

RESIGNATION

CUE HARD ROCK
MUSIC MONTAGE

SEND IN
YOUR WORK.

YOU SEE THE SUN RISE. AN ODD SENSE OF CALM TAKES OVER YOU. AS YOU HEAR THE SOUNDS OF PEOPLE STARTING THEIR DAY, YOU FEEL A SUDDEN CONNECTION TO THE COSMOS. TRULY, THESE ARE INTERESTING TIMES.

SCROUNGE FOR FOOD.

THE POST ALLNIGHTER
HIGH. LIFE IS AWESOME!!
YOU WANT TO KISS
EVERYONE YOU MEET!

5:30am

SCROUNGE
FOR FOOD.

EXISTENTIAL CRISIS!
WHAT AM I DOING
WITH MY LIFE??

THE CRASH

YOU'RE NOT AS
YOUNG AS YOU
USED TO BE.

BET

MAYBE YOU SHOULD
HAVE STARTED EARLI-
ZZZZZZ...

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Solution, page 18

	9	4	6		3	1		
								6
6				4		3	5	
	8			1		9		5
			2		5			
7		3		9			1	
	2	9		7				1
4								
		7	9		1	2	3	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution, page 18

48x		6x			5
	4		6÷	60x	
150x				6	
	24x		6x		6
6		12+			2x
1		120x			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

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S M B C

BY ZACH WEINER

[2574]

PAGE 11

IT WAS ONCE POSSIBLE TO BELIEVE IN AN EVOLUTIONARY TREE OF LIFE. BUT HORIZONTAL GENE TRANSFER MEANS DIVERGENT BRANCHES CAN HAVE DIRECT CONNECTIONS. THERE'S REALLY ONLY ONE STRUCTURE COMMONLY KNOWN, WHICH COULD DESCRIBE THAT QUALITY.



anime BOSTON 2012 APRIL 6-8



Ten years of Anime Boston!

By Jessica J. Pourian
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Students and passersby taking the T this past weekend were likely baffled by the high number of folks in strange costumes; they were here due to the arrival of two conventions in town. Cosplayers flocked to Boylston for Anime Boston, and to south Boston for the Penny Arcade Expo (PAX). I split my time between the two cons, though I spent considerably less time at Anime Boston than PAX — I was there only for Saturday morning. This is Anime Boston’s 10th year since its inception in 2003, when it was created by the New England Anime Society Inc.

I’m not quite sure how this scheduling conflict arose, but its effect was obvious in the convention hall. It felt like there were less people at Anime Boston than last year, though that might just be the effect of jumping from the behemoth Boston Convention and Exhibition Center where PAX was held to the considerably smaller Hynes Convention Center. It also seemed as if there were fewer events than in previous years at Anime Boston.

“You could definitely feel the effects of Anime Boston and PAX East being the same weekend,” said Benjamin L. Shaya ’14, “Anime Boston had fewer, lower quality panels than last year. I really hope the two cons don’t end up on the same weekend next year.”

Despite the seeming drop in attendance, Anime Boston still had a strong showing of cosplayers, and a solid artists’ corner (known as “Artists’ Alley”) where local and national artists could sell their art to excited fans. The fan art varied from crocheted Pokémon to prints of reimagined video game characters and watercolor portraits of popular anime characters. Fans looking to spend money could buy local at the Artists’ Alley or go to the dealer room, which had hundreds of vendors peddling everything anime, from posters and figurines to DVDs and stickers.

Jennifer T. Fu ’11 was in the Artist’s Alley selling some of her artwork, which ranged from prints and buttons to iPad decals and dojinshi (fan comics).

“I started [selling work at conventions] when I was 15, and I’m 22 now,” she said, “I’ve been doing Anime Boston since I was a freshman, so this is my fifth year.”

“I like interacting with people,” she explained, “They are generally really nice. ... I can leave the table unattended and people won’t steal anything.”

It’s also fun to do this, she said, because this way she “is able to find people for the more niche anime I’m into. If I find one person, that makes it worth it to me.”

Rui Wang ’15 was at the table with Fu, selling her homemade plushies. She “had a lot of fun people watching” and talking to vendors at adjacent tables, she said.

“The main reason I go to these conventions is to see what other people do,” she elaborated, “you see some really amazing things.”

The Artists’ Alley is often a good indicator of what shows are popular at the moment. The number of *My Little Pony* merchandise made it seem like the series has stayed strong this year, and Pokémon remains a fan favorite 16 years later. A number of people were also dressed up at characters from *Homestuck*, an on-line adventure game.

Besides the merchandise portion of the convention, there were a number of fun activities for attendees. As usual, the panels ranged from the expected (“Eve-angelion Deconstructed” and “Cosplay Makeup for Beginners”), to the thoughtful (“Judaism and Anime” and “Gender and Nerd Culture”), to the downright weird (“Dick and Buster’s Hentai Dubbing Extravaganza”). Like last year, there was a formal ball, The Phoenix Ball, which had attendees dress formally or in cosplay, along with a masquerade and a charity auction, among a number of other events I didn’t get a chance to attend. An Anime Boston tradition, the AMV (anime music video) contest drew hundreds of entries this year, and con-goers got to vote for the finalists.

“I follow several entrants year-round online, so it’s exciting to see which one of their videos end up winning,” said Jennifer Wang ’14.

Next year, the conflict between the two cons shouldn’t be an issue — Anime Boston will take place on May 24 – 26, while PAX will be on March 22 – 24. Check out *The Tech* this Friday for our PAX East coverage!

Lessons Learned at the Anime Boston Formal Ball

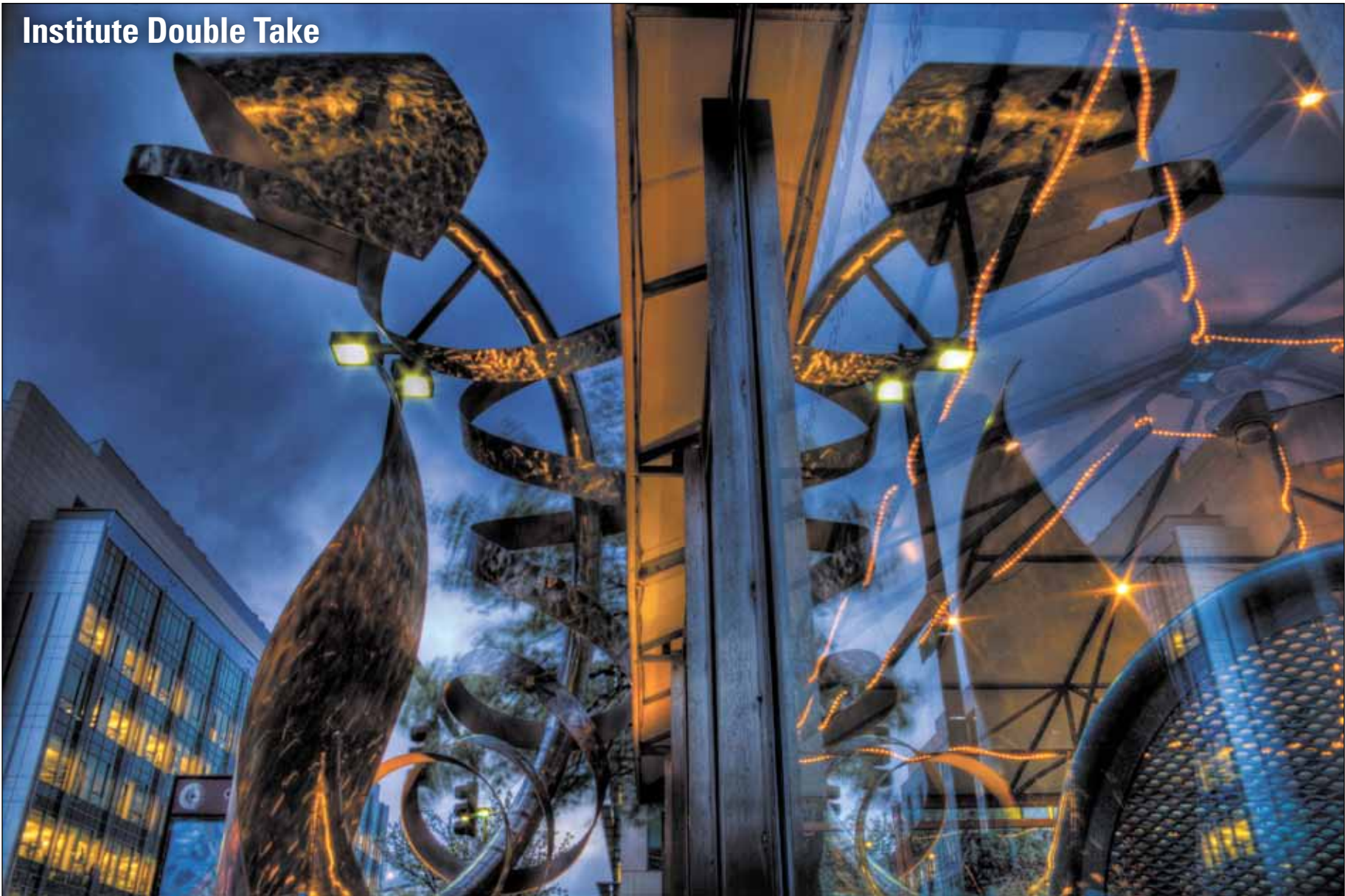
- Incorrect dosages of sleep, food, and Viennese Waltz may result in extreme dizziness, nausea, loss of equilibrium, and mild hysterical laughter.
- Do not attempt the rumba without absolute confidence in the integrity of your hips.
- Try to reach the venue early, lest you find yourself trapped at midday in a Green Line subway car that smells distinctly of nerd.
- Just because you’re dancing the tango doesn’t mean you have to wear a “seductive death glare.” It’s unsettling for your partner and painful for your face.
- Don’t be afraid to cover your lack of dance moves with polite small talk, costume compliments, and apologies.

—Michael T. Lin

PHOTOS BY CONNOR KIRSCHBAUM AND JESSICA J. POURIAN—THE TECH

1. Rage faces made an appearance at Anime Boston.
2. A con-goer cosplays as Nightmare from *Soul Caliber*.
3. An attendee cosplays as Guilmon, from the TV series *Digimon*.
4. A cosplayer dressed as Betty Crocker aka Her Imperious Condescension from *Homestuck* poses for the camera.
5. A number of figurines were for sale in the dealer room at Anime Boston.

Institute Double Take



TIFFANY HUANG—THE TECH

Focal Length: 18mm
Sensitivity: ISO 200
Aperture: f/22.0

This was taken at Legal Seafoods at sunset. I nearly missed the reflection the first time around. The lack of warm colors in the sky provides a nice contrast to the incandescent lighting of the fish. At first, I thought the wind would ruin the long exposure picture, but instead the shaking of the trees just made the photo more surreal.

SMBC, from Page 8

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Tom Hayden

Cofounder of Students for a Democratic Society, political activist, politician, and author, his most recent book is *The Long Sixties: From 1960 to Barack Obama*.

Noam Chomsky

Professor of Linguistics at MIT (emeritus), he has written and lectured widely on linguistics, intellectual history, contemporary issues, and U.S. foreign policy.

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A black and white photograph of Victor Kim, a young man, performing a backflip. He is wearing a dark jacket, dark pants, and a watch. His arms are outstretched, and his legs are in the air. The background is dark with a pattern of small white dots.

victor kim: youtube star and member of
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Low-income students pay same self-help as others

Increases in tuition and self-help level appear uncorrelated with MIT's admission yield

Tuition, from Page 1

offsets almost all of that \$6,000. Approximately 20 percent of undergraduates received Pell Grants this academic year, and the average per recipient is \$4,191, according to statistics given by Hicks.

When explaining the move from the two-tier to the one-tier self-help system, Daniel Hastings, Dean of Undergraduate Education, said that they didn't want to raise the higher tier to more than \$6,000. "I guess the decision was just to make it simpler. We actually know that from survey data when we talk to parents: having a simpler system to explain actually does help," said Hastings.

Hicks said this two-tier system came into place only recently in 2006. Self-help level was a lot higher before that, based on the expectation that people going into science and engineering careers can afford to borrow more, but it had

been decreasing since 1998. Amidst the economic downturn in 2008, however, this steady decrease was considered unsustainable, and a decision was made in 2009 to move back towards an one-tier system.

"MIT made conscious efforts to bring self-help down and in particular tried to, in response to some of our peers, create a two-tier system, so we can have a very low self-help for the lower tier with the hope that maybe you can get the self-help lower for all tiers," said Hicks. "It became clear that not only could we not lower self-help for everyone, which our peers have done, but we'd also have to reverse the decision about the two tiers. But in reversing that decision, we left into place another enhancement we had put in, and that is to use the Pell Grant as a mitigating factor."

According to Hastings, the self-help level was around \$8,000 in 2000. "\$6,000 is a self-help level

that we feel students in general can accomplish through a combination of work and loans. It's not, we feel, an excessive self-help," said Hastings.

"They decided it was appropriate to ask students to do more. And again, it wasn't done lightly; it was done in concert with the Committee on Undergraduate Admission and Financial Aid, with input from students, faculty and administrators, and the senior leaders of the institute, and finally the Corporation. And the Corporation includes members of MIT who went to MIT years ago when they were asking students to do far more," said Hicks.

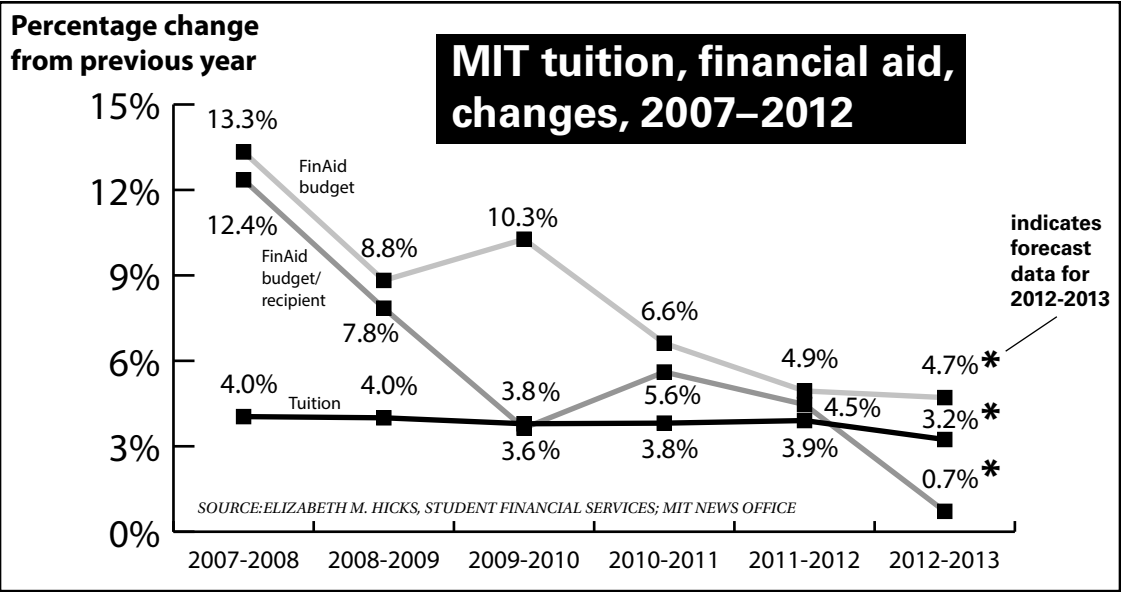
Stuart Schmill, Dean of Undergraduate Education, does not think the increase in self-help level will have a huge impact on student choices of whether or not to go to MIT.

"There's a very small handful of

schools that have lower self-help level, such as Yale, Harvard, and Princeton. So will students choose where they want to go based on [self-help]? Well I hope they will choose a college based on where they think a better fit for them is, with the understanding that, yeah, maybe there's a small difference in the self-help level now, which I can appreciate being a burden, but that once they graduate and move on will not make a difference," said Schmill.

"In comparative studies we engaged in with peers, the average income of our financial aid recipients is slightly lower than other schools, such as Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, and Yale," said Hicks.

Despite the stemmed growth in financial aid budget and an increase in self-help level last year, the percentage of admits who eventually chose to go to MIT — i.e. MIT's yield — went up from 63.8 to 64.6 percent last year, according to Schmill.



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STARR FORUM



Arab Spring and its Impact on the
Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Friday, April 13, 2012
4:00 - 5:30 | E40-496
Lucian Pye Conf Rm

About the speakers




Leila Farsakh is associate professor in political science at the University of Massachusetts Boston and is the author of *Palestinian Labor Migration to Israel: Labour, Land and Occupation*, and editor of *Commemorating the Naksa, Evoking the Nakba*, as well as several articles on the political economy of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and on the One-State solution.



Anat Biletski is the Albert Schweitzer Professor of Philosophy at Quinnipiac University and has taught at Tel Aviv University since 1979. She is on the board of FFIPP (Faculty for Israeli-Palestinian Peace), and was chairperson of the board of B'Tselem: the Israeli Information center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

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PUBLIC MEETING Tuesday, April 10
Cambridge Marriott Hotel | 50 Broadway
6:00–9:00 p.m. | Light refreshments served

The Kendall Square Advisory Committee: 2011 and the City of Cambridge invite you to a presentation of the draft plan for Kendall Square.


Incorporating input from last June's public meeting and a series of Advisory Committee sessions on topics including housing, building form, open space, roadway improvements, and transit service, the plan lays out an integrated vision for Kendall Square. Building on existing strengths and nurturing new ones, the plan aims to create a welcoming place for innovating, living, learning, working and playing—reinforcing Kendall Square's role as a global leader in solving the challenges and capturing the opportunities of our era.

Please join us to review and offer feedback on the draft plan. We look forward to your input and participation!

All ages are welcome, and we encourage you to bring a neighbor or a friend.

To help us better plan the event, please register at <http://k2publicmeeting2.eventbrite.com>

Tickets are NOT required



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Spring 2012 Wulff Lecture
Department of Materials Science and Engineering



Thursday, April 12, 2012
4:30–5:30 pm
Room 32-123
Reception immediately following

A Stretchy, Curvy
Future
for Electronics

Professor John A. Rogers
Lee J. Flory Founder Chair in Engineering Innovation
Department of Materials Science and Engineering
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Biology is curved, soft, and elastic; silicon wafers are not. Semiconductor technologies that bridge this gap in form and mechanics will create new opportunities in devices that adopt biologically inspired designs or require intimate integration with the human body. This talk describes the development of electronics that offer the performance of state-of-the-art, wafer-based systems with the mechanical properties of a rubber band, explains the underlying principles in materials science and mechanics that enable these outcomes, and illustrates their use in bio-integrated, 'tissue-like' electronics with unique capabilities in mapping neural activity on the brain and monitoring physiological status through the skin. Demonstrations in humans and live animal models illustrate the functionality offered by these technologies, and suggest several clinically relevant applications.

The Wulff Lecture is an introductory, general-audience, entertaining lecture which serves to educate, inspire, and encourage MIT undergraduates to take up study in the field of materials science and engineering and related fields. The entire MIT community, particularly freshmen, is invited to attend. The Wulff Lecture honors the late Professor John Wulff, a skilled, provocative, and entertaining teacher who inaugurated a new approach to teaching the popular freshman subject: 3.091 Introduction to Solid State Chemistry.



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

MIT postdoc arrested in Colorado in sex sting

Yaron Segal arrested by undercover agent, was deemed flight risk and denied bail

By Anne Cai
NEWS EDITOR

MIT mechanical engineering postdoc Yaron Segal, 30, was arrested on March 28 for allegedly arranging a sexual encounter with what he thought was a mother and her two underage children.

Segal, who is originally from Israel and received his PhD in physics from Yale last year, flew to Grand Junction, Colorado from Cambridge, Mass. for the meeting and was instead arrested by federal authorities. According to the criminal complaint of USA v. Segal, he was charged for willfully traveling “for the purpose of engaging in a sexual act with an individual under the age of 16 years old and ... with an individual less than 12 years old.”

Segal had been corresponding with her undercover persona by chat, email, and phone.

The mother was in fact undercover Special Agent Vanessa Hipps of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigation. Hipps stated in the affidavit that beginning on Feb. 2, Segal had been corresponding with her undercover persona by chat, email, and phone. She discovered in mid-March via Microsoft Online Services that the email address Segal had provided was opened in New Haven, Connecticut, and was in use in Cambridge, Mass. Hipps soon confirmed Segal’s identity, and they arranged to meet after he purchased flight tickets to Grand Junction.

On March 29, Assistant Professor Tonio Buonassisi in the Department of Mechanical Engineering submitted a letter from his perspective as the principal investigator (PI) of MIT’s Photovoltaics Research Laboratory (PVLab), in which Segal

worked. Buonassisi described Segal as a “productive” postdoc who “is a leader within [his] research group, closely mentoring five graduate students” and “[engages] in projects for communal benefit.”

Despite this account, last

Wednesday, Segal was denied bail and remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal, with the court determining that he was a flight risk and that “there are no conditions of release that can be imposed, which would assure [Segal’s] continued

appearance before the court.” According to the criminal information sheet associated with the case, Segal could face a maximum 30 years of imprisonment and/or a maximum \$250,000 fine if convicted.

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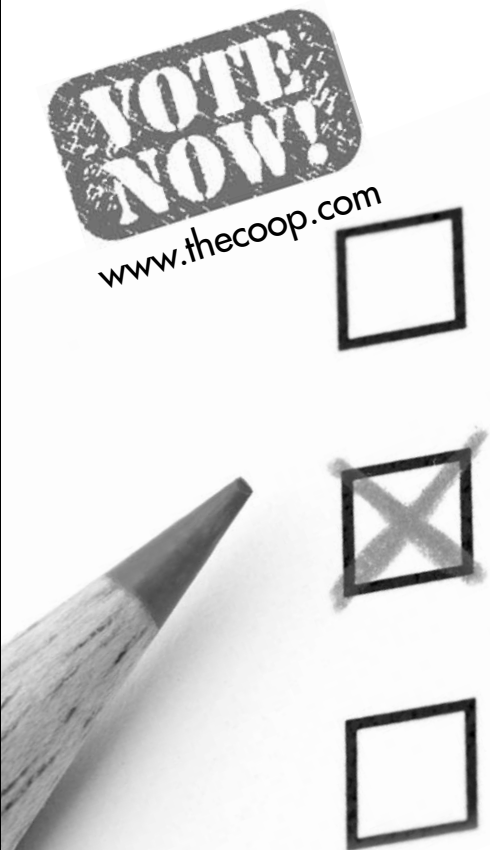


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Coop Student Board of Directors Election Update

The following student Coop members are candidates for the
Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 academic year.




MIT Undergraduate Students:
Joshua Dunaway, 2014
Paige Finklestein, 2014
Emma Kane, 2015

MIT Graduate Students:
Ellie Bertani, MBA, Sloan/MPA, HKS, 2013
Samuel Shaner, PhD, 2015

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
Cody Dean, 2014
Hilary Higgins, 2015
Joshua Zhang, 2014

Harvard Graduate Students:
Christina Adams, MBA, 2013
Oliver Hauser, PhD, 2015
Mathew Morgan, MPP, 2013
May Lam, MBA, 2013
Allison Trzop, JD, 2013


Voting Deadline is April 26



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UA presidential candidates debate various issues

Debate in student center hits on matters that future UA leadership will have to consider

UA debate, from Page 1

administrators, while Tallapragada/Yang countered with a UA-outsider perspective from leadership positions in The Forum and the crew team, saying that “because of internal chaos within the UA, a lot of progress towards engaging administration got lost,” and that “as UA outsiders, we won’t color our new efforts with failures in the past.” Tallapragada/Yang indicated that from their experiences, they bring various connections with administrators as well.

Deveney/Breton, also with outside leadership positions, said that their relationships with administrators is “limited, but there’s no reason those can’t be quickly fostered.”

All three tickets agreed on the importance of working with the administration on various issues while also representing student interests, but they differed somewhat on the manner in which to approach discussions.

Citing their past experience in working with administrators, Craighead/Walsh emphasized the need for compromise, stating that student leaders cannot go into meetings with administrators with demands, but should rather list the concerns and needs from both perspectives and find a plan that best addresses them.

Breton countered, saying that while they understand the need for compromise, “it’s important to keep in mind what students really want” and the results they want to see.

“The UA is not here to fight the administration,” said Yang. “Perhaps students sometimes think certain administrators are out to get us, but no one is. Everyone’s here with the intention to help students.”

On the presidential search

In light of President Susan J. Hockfield’s resignation announcement, the search for a new Institute president offers the current student body a way to affect the direction of the Institute.

All the candidates agreed on the importance of having the new president understand MIT student culture, but from slightly varying perspectives.

Tallapragada expressed a belief that, in order to fully understand student culture and address relevant student needs, the person selected should essentially be an MIT graduate or have an engineering degree. Yang added that a necessary refocus on the residential and educational experiences of MIT requires a deep understanding of the culture here.

Deveney/Breton saw an opportunity for the new president to further the mission and culture of MIT through recent projects like MITx, and Breton pointed out that a fundamental skill of a president should be fundraising ability, saying that such an ability requires direct knowledge of students’ abilities and interests.

“The next president will have the opportunity to impact campus over the next decade, in terms of administrators chosen, engaging students and addressing their concerns, bringing more things to campus that students want to see, preserving things about MIT that represent our culture, and furthering MIT as a world leader,” explained Craighead.

On that note, Walsh added to the audience, “Your opinions are equally as powerful as ours.”

On the Orientation Committee report

The Review Committee on Orientation (RCO) released a report last week with recommendations for

changes that would affect Fall 2012 orientation.

“We feel like there are a lot of open questions,” said Craighead. “A number of recommendations were relegated to further study.”

Craighead called the recommendation that students be charged for housing over orientation and during FPOPs “questionable,” saying that they would talk with administrators about whether other options exist. Walsh added that given orientation’s importance to MIT, he and Craighead would work with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Association (Panhel), and Dormitory Council (DormCon) to make sure “nothing valuable is lost.”

Tallapragada/Yang also objected to the orientation housing fee, and they expressed concern with the recommendation to decouple the adjustment lottery process from REX (residential exploration). Yang urged investigating whether financial aid would be available for freshmen wishing to participate in FPOPs but simply cannot afford it.

“Cutting CityDays and postponing it to a later date, when the weather’s worse and people are busy, is a bad idea,” added Tallapragada, citing the benefits of CityDays as gathering as a community and interacting with upperclassmen.

Deveney/Breton reminded the audience that the recommendations “leave a lot of things unchanged,” and they advised confirming the intent to go forward with changes before taking action.

On support for student groups

Deveney/Breton indicated that space and resource allocations were difficulties that student groups constantly face, and Tallapragada/Yang pointed out that a large issue among student groups is the difficulty of get-

ting reimbursed for group activities.

Craighead/Walsh agreed, proposing a solution in the form of procurement cards, which are essentially “credit cards that let you avoid spending out of your pocket.” Some groups already use procurement cards, but Craighead/Walsh hope to propagate their use through all student groups and streamline the financial process.

On student support resources

Given the student deaths over the past academic year, concerns about mental health at MIT have been raised. Moderator and *Tech* Executive Editor Ethan A. Solomon ’12 asked whether the candidates thought students know how to get support at MIT, whether about mental health, drug use, or academics, and the consensus among the candidates was generally “no.”

Craighead/Walsh and Tallapragada/Yang called for the return of a program like Nightline for student support.

Support programs are “some of the most important programs on campus,” said Craighead, “because we’re talking about lives here.”

Tallapragada lauded S³ as one of the most helpful resources for him personally, but that did not easily translate into the “clerical side of MIT” understanding what a student is going through.

“There’s a disconnect between the people who give you help, and the people who are ultimately dealing with you on a daily basis,” said Tallapragada.

Deveney/Breton want to streamline access to resources, suggesting the possibility of highlighting all such opportunities to find resources in the UA newsletter.

Ultimately, the three tickets agree that it comes down to resource ac-

cessibility, and most importantly, student networks. “Our first line of defense is really each other,” said Craighead. “We are students here, we are friends here, and we have to look out for each other.”

Final thoughts

Craighead/Walsh closed by emphasizing their experience within the UA and communicating with administrators, saying that those are the qualities that would get things done.

“All of us as candidates are exceptional and qualified,” said Craighead, “but what the UA really needs and what the students need are leaders that can take vision and translate it into results.”

Tallapragada/Yang agreed with the need for effective UA leadership, but focused on a effective internal management, attracting leaders to the UA, and a long-term vision.

“We can start to build relationships with administrators that students five, 10, 15 years from now can benefit from,” said Tallapragada.

“We cannot emphasize enough that the UA has, fundamentally, a people problem,” said Yang. “We want to turn the UA into a magnet for student leaders who want to make an impact.”

Deveney added that efficiency is key to drawing people to the UA, especially since MIT students are often pressed for time, and Breton stated that a basic fact of making the UA more effective is ensuring that “students know who is on the UA so they know who to turn to.”

A full video of the debate is available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V132/N16/uadebatevideo.html>. Voting begins 9 a.m. tomorrow online at <https://vote.mit.edu> and on the first floor of the Student Center. Electronic voting will close at midnight on Friday, April 13.



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Course 2-A curriculum sees major changes

The Department of Mechanical Engineering (Course 2) is making major changes to its 2-A program, which will take effect for the Class of 2016. A pilot program for current freshmen who choose to opt in will take place in Fall 2012.

Course 2-A is a modified, more flexible version of the traditional Course 2 track; in 2-A, students declare 72-unit concentrations in a related engineering discipline of their own choice — for example, biomedical engineering or product development. In the traditional Course 2 track, students have more required departmental core subjects in place of the concentration.

The most significant change for the new 2-A program is that nearly every 2.00x class — with the exception of 2.009 (Product Engineering Process) — will have a

2.0x analog, designed specifically for the 2-A curriculum.

Each 2.0x class will be six units. Some like 2.00 (Introduction to Design) will be taught for an entire semester, while the majority will run for half a semester, to be taken sequentially. For example, a student would take 2.01 (Elements of Structures) for the first quarter and then take either 2.02A (Mechanics of Materials: Properties and Applications) or 2.02B (Mechanics of Structures) the second quarter.

The program will also require a 12-unit “Engineering Mathematics” class on linear algebra and ordinary differential equations, as well as a six-unit probability and statistics class. These classes will replace 18.03 (Differential Equations), which will no longer be required. As in the old 2-A cur-

riculum, a concentration will still require 72 units.

Brandy Baker, the Course 2 undergraduate academic administrator, said that these changes came about because of growing enrollment in the 2-A program, as well as a desire to better meet the needs of 2-A students.

Every 2.00x class will have a 2.0x analog, designed specifically for the 2-A curriculum.

“In the past, especially since we became accredited, 2-A has seen a large increase in enrollment — about 40 – 45 percent of Course 2 is 2-A,” said Baker. “When the faculty reviewed the curriculum, the

department realized there were enough students that we could design a curriculum specifically for 2-A. We’ve introduced six-unit classes to make the curriculum more modular, and we’ve added new classes to fulfill needs that students have been asking about for a long time, such as 2.678 (Electronics for Mechanical Systems).”

Current freshmen who plan to declare Course 2-A will have the option to participate in the new 2-A pilot program or stay with the present 2-A curriculum, as part of a transition plan. Eight new classes for the new 2-A curriculum will be offered in the fall.

The department will be holding an info session today at noon in 1-390. Two more info sessions will follow on April 20 during CPW and on April 24.

—Deborah Chen

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Solution to Crossword

from page 7

S	A	M	P	L	E	R	S	A	V	A	B	L	E		
E	V	I	L	O	N	E		E	D	I	T	I	O	N	
T	E	N	U	R	E	D		R	E	N	T	O	U	T	
P	R	I	M	E		D	A	I	L		D	V	R		
L	A	V	E	N	D	E	R	O	I	L		O	R	E	
A	G	E		O	N	C	U	E		S	M	E	E		
N	E	R	V	O	U	S		S	C	R	E	E	D	S	
	E	B	B					O	U	R					
T	A	C	T	I	L	E		S	A	M	B	A	E	D	
E	R	A	S		E	X	I	T	S		D	V	I		
A	M	P		S	E	C	R	E	T		C	O	D	E	S
P	O	E		P	A	U	S	E		A	R	E	N	A	
O	I	L	R	I	G	S		P	A	R	A	D	E	R	
T	R	E	A	C	L	E		E	X	O	T	I	S	M	
S	E	T	T	E	E	S		R	E	L	E	N	T	S	

Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

8	9	4	6	5	3	1	2	7
1	3	5	7	2	8	4	9	6
6	7	2	1	4	9	3	5	8
2	8	6	3	1	7	9	4	5
9	4	1	2	6	5	8	7	3
7	5	3	8	9	4	6	1	2
3	2	9	4	7	6	5	8	1
4	1	8	5	3	2	7	6	9
5	6	7	9	8	1	2	3	4

Solution to Techdoku

from page 8

4	6	3	2	1	5
2	4	1	6	5	3
3	5	2	1	6	4
5	1	4	3	2	6
6	2	5	4	3	1
1	3	6	5	4	2

The Future of Clean Energy Begins Here MIT Clean Energy Prize Finale

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